

## BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or	)	
	)	CONSENT ORDER OF
Revocation of the Educator Certificate of	)	
	)	SUSPENSION
Towanda R. Henderson	)	
	)	
Certificate 181098	)	

### SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on January 11, 2006. On December 14, 2005, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Towanda R. Henderson, a notice of her right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate 181098 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Ms. Henderson received the notice as evidenced by her contact with the Department on December 30, 2005. Ms. Henderson subsequently agreed to waive her right to a hearing and to accept the voluntary suspension of her certificate for a period that would retroactively commence on November 25, 2005, and end on May 25, 2006. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Ms. Henderson's certificate for the agreed upon period.

Towanda R.  
Henderson

Initial Here

Date

### FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Henderson holds an expired temporary South Carolina certificate and last taught in South Carolina in 1998. Ms. Henderson also holds a Georgia educator certificate and has a total of over thirteen years of experience. During the 2003-04 school year, Ms. Henderson was a special education teacher at Chapel Hill Elementary School in DeKalb County, Georgia. On November 10, 2005, The Georgia Professional Standards Commission suspended Ms. Henderson's Georgia certificate from November 25, 2005, until May 25, 2006, for

leaving school premises without permission, resulting in six special needs students being without appropriate supervision and instruction for approximately one hour.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Ms. Henderson's certificate 181098, commencing retroactively on November 25, 2005, through May 25, 2006. If Ms. Henderson wishes to have her certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, Ms. Henderson must make a written request to the Office of Educator Certification of the Department.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac

Joe Isaac

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

January 11, 2006

I, Towanda R. Henderson, S.C. Educator Certificate 181098 do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on January 11, 2006.

/S/ Towanda R. Henderson  
Towanda R. Henderson

1/3/06  
Date